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# EASY Pronunciation

BREAKTHROUGH AUDIO METHOD!

ESL

## **Easy Pronunciation**

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on the recordings only:

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## **Easy Pronunciation**

## **SECTION ONE:VOWELS**

To pronounce long vowels:

1. Keep your tongue tight.
2. Hold the sound of the vowel.
3. Make your voice go up and then glide down at the end.

To pronounce short vowels:

1. Keep your tongue relaxed.
2. Keep the sound short.
3. Do not let your voice glide down at the end.

beat/bet

cape/cap

hope/hop

### **LONG VOWELS**

#### **LONG EE**

Common Spellings: e, ee, ea, e + consonant + e, -y

he	three	be	we	she	tree
knee	gee	see	Lee	Dee	fee
key	pea	tea	agree	keep	heat
seat	seek	leap	meek	weak	bead
read	deep	sweep	repeat	deplete	concede
sweet					

Here, take this seat. I think we all agree that that tree needs to be trimmed. When does he go out to sea? How can you leap to such sweeping conclusions? This heat is depleting my energy.

## LONG I

Common Spellings: i, ie, y, igh, i + consonant + e,

hi	bye	tie	die	my	sigh
try	lie	eye	rye	guy	why
type	write	like	pipe	white	wipe
Mike	excite	ignite	light	wide	survive
knife	time	wine	fine	line	prescribe
bind	nine	align	I'm	mime	blind
lime	pine	dine	rhyme		

What time do you dine? Try to write like this. I'm fine right now. Where did you buy that beautiful tie? That was quite an exciting ride!

## LONG A

Common Spellings: a, ay, eigh, ai, a + consonant + e, ea

day	hay	weigh	Ray	may	kay
gay	lay	make	date	hate	wait
rate	mate	Kate	gate	late	dame
haste	waste	raid	made	cape	game
lane	delay	repay	radio	taper	escapade
major	grenade				

This is my roommate, Ray. Jake and Kate brought a great cake. I hate to wait for the news. Let's not delay the game by changing the date. Don't you just hate to pay your taxes?

## OY

Common Spellings: oy, oi, eu

boy	coy	toy	Roy	soy	joy
koi	enjoy	employ	cloy	dally	annoy
poi	rejoice	voice	Boyd	Lloyd	avoid
voyage	Freud	loiter	join	joint	ointment
coin	choice	oyster	poison	cloister	void
moist	loyal	royal	flamboyant		

Try some ointment on your joints. That boy has too many toys. I heard Freud's voice in my dream. We made our choice by flipping a coin. Please void this check.

## LONG OO

Common Spellings: oo, u, ough, ue, ew, u + consonant + e

blue	too	through	who	woo	sue
drew	zoo	glue	review	you	construe
pursue	debut	Magoo	few	shoe	too
tube	feud	exude	moon	June	soon
typhoon	balloon	resume	exhume	buffoon	cartoon
rude	reduce	new	duke	rude	conclude
Luke	koonk	excuse	amuse	tube	tune

The following words have a Y sound before OO:

few	pew	ewe	excuse	perfume	huge
refuge	cute	beauty			

history continue Mickey resist exit Nicholas  
 consist exist trick fish switch busy  
 triple been

Do you wish to exit the theatre? I tried to slip this bracelet over my wrist, but it doesn't fit. I wish to be picked up at six. The list is hidden in a closet. I've been busy.

#### COMPARISON: SHORT IH / SHORT EH

Pit/pet	Sid/said	hid/head
Wrist/rest	fist/fest	did/dead
Miss/mess	lid/lead	bid/bed
Slipped/slept		

#### SHORT O

Common Spellings o, a (always followed by consonants)

hop	stop	rob	job	Tom	sob
lock	rock	cop	John	Ron	palm
shop	lingerie	father	astonish	Connie	honest
operate	not	possible	stock	bottle	blond

Rob and Tom were stopped by a cop. Connie sobbed and locked the door. Is it possible you forgot to lock the shop when it got robbed? Don got a job in a shop. Stay calm and stop rocking the boat.

#### SHORT AH

Common Spellings: a (always followed by a consonant)

cat	bag	sag	lap	wrap	man
last	fast	gas	track	pack	sandwich
Mac	half	have	has	apple	magazine
attitude	candid	tragedy	handy	cavity	habit
trash	laboratory		procrastinate		

Wrap your trash in a bag. I'll just sit on the grass with my magazine, my sandwich, and my apple. What kind of an attitude is that? The black cat is happy in my lap. Sarah said I had bags sagging under my eyes.

#### COMPARISON: SHORT AH / SHORT EH / SHORT O

Bad/bed	had/head	rack/rock
Dad/dead	bag/bog	fad/fed
Sad/said	tan/ten	cat/eot
Sand/send	land/lend	band/bond

#### AW

Common Spellings: aw, au, ou, o, aI + consonant

saw	awful	coffee	draw	jaw	bought
taught	fought	Paul	paw	gaudy	raw
off	all	straw	caught	ought	dog
dawn	cough	pawn	walk	talk	water
thought	lawn	daughter			

What happened to the dog's paw? Paul looked awful the last time I saw him. I ought to get up at dawn. This cough is from the cold I caught. I thought the coffee was awful today.

## COMPARISON: AW / SHORT O (REGIONAL PRONUNCIATION)

saw/saw	awful/awful	off/off
caught/caught	dog/dog	walk/walk
water/water	coffee/coffee	

## SHORT OO

Common Spellings: oo, ou, u (always followed by a consonant)

could	should	would	good	foot	look
put	took	soot	hood	push	woman
cook	nook	book	hook	shook	bush
brook	crook	cushy			

Here's a book on healthful cooking. Is this a very good neighborhood? Doctor, could you look at my foot, please. Would you give me a push? Take a look at the woman in the red hood!

## SHORT UH

Common Spellings: u, o (always followed by a consonant)

hut	but	bud	flood	cuddle	supper
pun	bun	ton	honey	come	son
fun	run	love	money	funny	jump
lump	summer	lovely	sudden	dumb	wonderful
pump	hug	bug	double		

You look funny when you jump. We won a ton of money. Her son will come for supper. This has been a wonderful summer. The sun suddenly came flooding in.

## REDUCED OR NEUTRAL VOWEL

Common Spellings: a, e, i, o, u

Note that almost any vowel in an unstressed syllable can be reduced to sound like the neutral vowel. This vowel is only found in words with more than one syllable.

about	another	alone
alive	adjust	accumulate
possible	accomplish	animal
beautiful	investigate	constant
personal	residual	residence
photograph	photographer	Los Angeles
Santa Barbara	reliance	support
homicide		

Is it possible to accomplish all that you want? He's a well known photographer in Los Angeles. The officers are investigating a possible homicide. Who do you rely on for support? I'd like to ask your advice on a matter of personal concern. How did you accumulate so much insignificant junk?

## **CONFUSING VOWEL PAIRS**

### **LONG EE / SHORT IH**

sheep(ship	deep/dip	read/rid
heat/hit	peat/pit	seek/sick

Why do you like to sit in this seat? These shoes fit my feet. At least make a list. Don't get rid of all the books I like to read. We got hit real hard by the heat.

### **LONG A / SHORT EH**

raid/red	laid/led	wade/wed
bait/bet	mate/met	trade/tred

They led us to where the eggs had been laid. Jed bought some beautiful jade. Don't let me be late. Get the back gate. Fred said his nerves were frayed.

### **LONG O / SHORT O**

road/rod	hope/hop	soak/sock
coat/co	toad/Todd	slope/slop
cloak/clock	code/cod	

We always rode through town in a hot rod. Tod found a toad. My socks were soaked after the downpour. Don't throw your coat on the cot. What's the area code for Cape Cod?

## **LONG OO / SHORT UH**

soon/sun	tune/ton	super/supper
boon/bun	Shoot/shut	coop/cup
mood/mud	boot/but	

Soon the sun will set again. There are a lot of roots in the rut. They played a ton of tunes on the radio yesterday. But where are your boots? That was a super supper.

## **VOWELS FOLLOWED BY L OR R**

were	hurt	bird	bur	sir	fur
dirt	shirt	learn	hurd	curd	skirt
Bert	serve	jerk	curt	word	work
gull	hull	mull	silly	dull	cull
lull	null				
curl	Burl	earl	girl	churl	hurl
Merle	furl	pearl	rural	world	whirl

The little girl whirled around in her long skirt. Merle's shirt is dirty. A gull is a common seabird. Where in the world did you get such curly hair? It can be dull in a rural area.

art	car	card	cart	Bart	mart
mar	jar	tarp	sharp	start	park
dark	start	tar	far		

Note that these words have the aw vowel in the east and the ah vowel in the west.

ball	call	fall	shawl	stall	wall
mall	haul	tall			

Should I go to the mall or the corner mart? Bart has dark hair, and Art is tall. Betty called me when she got my card. Can we go to the park and play ball? Be sure to start out before dark.

order	orchestra	ford	fork	Porsche	
lord	torpedo	cork	reward	sort	
gorge	dork	north	sword		

What sort of Ford do you own? Order some forks for the salad. We need to sort through the old boards. What sort of orchestra plays in your city? What's the reward for the stolen Porsche?

full	pull	wool	bull	well	bell
shell	Mel	sell	fell	gel	tell

The well is still full. Your hair gel just fell on the floor. Who pulled the wool over your eyes? Does Mel still sell those beautiful shells? Are you full yet?

ear	near	here	beer	gear	spear
tear	fear	jeer	deer	leer	seer
mere	rear	steer	we're	weird	peer
career	year				

peel	feel	heel	keel	wheel	deal
meal	Beale	eel	meal	teal	steal
reel	kneel	veal	zeal	seal	congeal

Do your ears feel better? I don't think I'd like to eat eel for any meal. We're ready for some beer. Do you feel like peeling apples? Bob's career is nearly finished

air	bear	stare	care	mare	hair
dare	wear	share	pare	fair	lair
rare					

ail	bail	kale	sale	rail	fail
jail	whale	dale	Braille	frail	tale
shale	hail	grail	veil		

Dale can read Braille. That species of whale has become rare. If you can't post bail, you'll go to jail. My sister and I share everything we wear. We all care about clean air.

coal	troll	soul	hole	pole	dole
stole	role	mole	foal	whole	
toll	bowl				

Moles live in underground holes. Life takes a toll on us poor souls. He really stole that role in the movie. An expensive gold bowl was stolen from the museum. They dug deep holes for the telephone poles.

fire	tire	hire	pyre	wire	squire
inspire	require	ire	mire	liar	sire
spire	attire	desire	transpire		

pile	guile	rile	isle	mile	tile
Lyle	style	vial	bile	wile	Nile
while	file	Kyle	Giles		

It's time to fire that liar. Giles' attire is always in style. It's about a mile out to the isle. I'm too tired to file. What inspired you to visit the Nile?

poor	pure	tour	boor	your	endure
demure	procure	moor	contour	mature	

pool	fool	jewel	tool	ghoul	rule
school	stool	mule	cool	drool	ridicule

The poor man is such a boor. You sure can endure a lot! They're sure to find a cure some day. However did you procure this jewel? The pool is a little too cool today.

fowl	owl	cowl	howl	growl	prowl
jowl					

Owls only prowl around at night. Do you hear that howling? The dog with the large jowls is growling. Do you eat fish or fowl?

our	cower	hour	power	sour	tower
flower					

That is our city's tower over there. Why cower in the corner? This drink tastes too sour at this hour.

boil	oil	toil	soil	broil	foil
coil	Doyle	spoil			

Tom Doyle is a little spoiled. Snakes coil up to foil their enemies. Broil the fish with a little oil. What rich soil this is! Boil some water for tea, please!

oyer	Doyer	lawyer	Sawyer	destroyer
deployer				

Mr. Doyer needs a good lawyer. We've redecorated our foyer. Sam Sawyer works on a naval destroyer.

## SECTION TWO: CONSONANTS

### SIMPLE CONSONANTS

#### L (Variation 1)

live	love	Linda	lick	television
Larry	light	alive	elite	telephone
lucid	linger	elevator	eligible	elephant

Leave Larry alone! Look at that lovely lighthouse. Literature lives at the library. The address is Eleven Ten Laurel Lane. Take the elevator up to the Old Elk Lodge. Turn down the television; I'm on the telephone.

## L (Variation 2)

Note that this L is usually found at the ends of words.

all	cell	Ralph	will	owl	Bill
roll	milk	will	hello	full	tall
pull	pill	gel			

Bill is getting tall. Make the call on your cell phone. Sorry, but we're all full. All this milk is fresh. Sailing is a great way to travel. Ellen called while you were out.

## COMPARISON L(1) / L(2)

let/call	lie/pull
like/well	law/all
left/bell	last/will
letter/fill	live/Carol

Carol likes to study law. Larry left all the letters here. Jill lives on Bell Lane. Let me call a cab. Has Carol called lately? Look, you left your wallet on the table.

## R

river	arrow	rise	right	bigger	road
radio	red	raid	mirror	right	reporter
wrong	orange	rare	refrigerator		ride
rest	restaurant				

The arrow raced to its target. Please don't raid the refrigerator. The Red Anchor Restaurant is in the

Harbor. The radio has the real news. I think I took a wrong turn. Robert prefers to ride on the right side. Raymond wrote the red book.

## COMPARISON L / R

lane/rain	look/rook
limb/rim	loom/room
liver/river	real/Lill

Oregon is really lovely. Larry rides really slowly. Turn right at the light, and then turn left. The Red River is now swollen with rain. Leave the radio on channel four. I've got a little riddle for you.

## TH: VOICED/VOICELESS PAIRS

This	with
they	thought
there	through

## VOICED TH

this	these	that	those	other	breathe
there	they	father	weather	rather	them

Sam can't breathe well in this kind of weather. My skin feels smooth after I bathe. Where did this other one come from? Do you know whether they live there? I'd rather not wear leather. Either your father or your mother can sign this. There were a lot of those books there.

## VOICELESS TH

breath thing warmth health third authors  
think nothing bath therapy faith math  
wealthy ether ethics

Math is the one thing I don't like. He was once wealthy, but he lost everything. We are nothing without ethics! Three warm baths a day are good therapy. The path to the theater is open now. Thanks for the thought!

## COMPARISON: VOICED / VOICELESS TH

mouth/mouthe	breath/breathe
thought/though	cloth/clothe
think>this	ether/either
thigh/thy	wrath/rather

What are those things over there? They don't know whether he's wealthy or not. The man in the leather jacket is very thoughtful. The weather man says it's thirty-three degrees. This warmth is rather odd this year. There are a few things I need to think about.

## S

rice	sweet	soup	Sally	cell	Rosa
sale	Susan	solve	sit	sing	soda
submit	sedan	sold			

This soda is too sweet. Would you like soup or salad? Please submit the forms when you complete the tasks.

I bought this dress on sale. Wes likes to solve crimes. Sue, this rice is super!

## Z

Ezra	visit	zoo	as	because	zero
Tuesday	wise	files	bees	his	was
rise	is	Bozo			

The temperature feels like it's below zero. Tuesday is the best day to visit the zoo. Wednesday was his busiest day. Is it wise to rise early? There's a lot of noise because he's very busy. It's easy to be lazy. Where's the folder that holds all my files? Why is there so much haze today? They always catch their planes on time.

## COMPARISON: S / Z

hiss/his	ice/eyes
bus/buzz	piece/peas
hearse/hers	loose/lose
excuse/excuse	close/close

What excuse do we need to close the door? That buzz sounds close. These peas are ice cold. Don't lose that lease! I saw that bus with my own eyes. Sara and Susan are close friends. These shoes are too loose. His eyes are hazel. Excuse me. Is this your soda? How's your sandwich?

## SH

shy      should      share      wash      fashion      shoulder  
usher    push-    shop    shout    fish    show  
shoes    she

Should I share my favorite chocolates? The usher showed us to our seats. Wash your hands after you finish that. Those shoes are all the fashion. Did I mention the shop on the corner? Sharon is so shy. Shout in that direction. Wear your special shorts. Some pushy people were shopping today. Could you show us how to fish? It sounds like she has whiplash.

## ZH

azure      beige      garage      delusion      pleasure      leisure  
Asian      vision      measure      fusion      confusion

I need to have my vision measured soon. It's a pleasure to meet you. It's a fusion reactor. There was confusion in the garage about the owner of the beige sedan. It's a simple problem of confusion. The sky is azure blue today. Is it casual day today?

## COMPARISON: ZH / SH

fusion/fuschia  
measure/mesher

There's a lot of confusion over this issue. The show was a real pleasure. There's a shower in the garage. You

should find some leisure time. The fisherman measured his fish. Could you casually mention my name? Please show me some beige shoes. It's a pleasure to see you again, Sharon. You should get your vision checked again. The solution is sure to come.

## F

forget      fish      faith      father      file  
coffee      field      fail      fever      forth      final  
awful      find      reef      effort      leaf      finish

Don't let your faith fail you now! The reef is full of fish today. It took effort to finish the job. Father goes back and forth from home to work. What's the final score? The other referee has a fever today. How do you find your fish? This fence has been effaced again. Your field is full of jobs. Few people are so forgetful. You need to fight for your friends. Where did you file the folder?

## V

view      very      Evelyn      valid      Victor      every  
violence      even      evening      variety      vegetables

Even the river is rising. Tom is very vivacious today. The violets look so lovely in the sunlight. There's such a variety of violence on TV. Evelyn's dog is so vicious. Do you like very many vegetables? Is your license valid in Vermont? This view is unbelievable. When did you visit Eve? We vow to live in peace. Have a cup of coffee.

## COMPARISON F / V

fairy/very  
leaf/leave      final/vinyl  
half/have

I have to have that song on vinyl! Leave the final copy to me. This half is very funny. Veronica found the solution very fair. The coffee is very strong today. Press seven for information. It's foggy this evening. If you can, visit this evening. Several of these vegetables are different. Never leave your family at home.

## M

minute matter move man reminder  
humble numb rim mind Tom  
summer bum

It's so hot this summer. No matter what, Tom is humble. My foot is so numb, I can't even move it. What's on the rim of this mountain? Mary always needs a reminder. Don't give the bum any more money. Don't mention it. I saw that man a minute ago. What time is Mr. Wright coming? It seems warm today. Mrs. Martin called me this morning.

## N

not number run nuance nut never  
no one inner Nile one men nine  
inch innocent

The men live in number nine. Never say never. No one can run faster than Dan. We'd never taken a night cruise on the Nile! How many inches are in nine feet? We never know when we'll see you. The car is running fine now. Do you know my number? How many women won the game? There's a ninety percent chance of rain.

## NG

wing hang string singer tongue wrong  
thing ding pinging Bing song long  
tongs ring bring

All these answers are wrong. Let's sing a song before we go. The phone is ringing. How long will that pinging sound go on? What's wrong with this thing? Bring the tongs here, please. There are too many dings in this car. The bell just rang. Did you bang on the door?

## NG + G

anger single jungle tangle wrangle ingle  
hunger finger longer longest strongest strongest

He's the strongest man I've ever seen. What is the longest river? It's a jungle out there. Try to wrangle for the best bargain. The children sang jingle bells again. Try not to tangle with the boss too much. I usually take my coffee a little stronger. We did every single thing we could. Did she break her finger? He's angry because he's hungry. You aren't getting any younger.

## N + J. (G is pronounced as J.)

mange manger strange stranger arrange ginger  
range sponge

Would you like some ginger tea? Did you make the arrangements? What a strange place this is! Your dog seems to have mange. He's a perfect stranger to me. Can you arrange my trip, please? Here's a sponge to wipe up the mess.

## NK

tank bank rink pink thank sink  
wink spunk spank skunk mink dunk  
drink think hunk

This ink is pink! Do you think Bob spanks his kids? Thanks for the cold drink. Mary is full of spunk today. Go to bed and get a few winks. You can't drive a tank everyday. If you try dunking me, I might sink. Is this mink fake? The bank opens at ten.

## Y

yes onion yellow you use year  
million young youth beyond yeast yesterday  
yard yet few

There was a silver fox in the yard yesterday. You're still so young. Have you seen the yellow bird yet? Why does that young puppy yap so much? Use fresh yeast in the

bread. What's beyond that building? Next year, we'll make a million. Please don't use too many onions. Yes, you can use my car.

## W

wide wit wish west work winter  
we would wet wealth way worry  
wear want welcome

Why not wear white? I think we want to go west. Why worry? There's a whole, wide world to see. I wish I were as witty as you! We have a long way to go. What? That's a weird welcome. What should I wear to work tomorrow? That was a wild winter we had. How far away is your work? Would you want to go west?

## H

here high hundred heart happy hold  
him hat healthy horse hotel head  
hide help hard

The old hotel is high on the hill. Hold your hat in your hand during the national anthem. How hard do you have to work? Have a healthy heart! How high can your horse jump? I'd be happy to help you. How have you been? Who is the head of the hotel? Hold your head up high. You can't hide here. Have you told him, yet?

**P**

Paul      opinion pine      peach      potatoes  
 prepare power pull      pile      pizza  
 put      people pay      pear      operation

Peter has a high opinion of Paula. Be prepared to meet powerful people here. Do you prefer peaches or pears? Pile the prints over there. Don't pay full price. You push, and I'll pull. Please share your opinion about this operation. Put the pizza on the plate, please. Don't pile any more papers on my desk. Please pick up some potato salad for the picnic.

PH is pronounced like F: photograph, phone, phony

PS is pronounced like S: psychologist, psychiatrist, psychic.

**B**

begin      break      bring      bail      Barbara  
 breathe      abrupt      bit      but      bed  
 about      baby      boy      bat      banana

The abrupt noise took my breath away. I was about to begin my book when Brendan called. Boy, I'm broke! Bring me a big bucket. Buy the boy a baseball bat. Barbara bought some bananas. Bill needs to go to bed. Betty had a baby boy. Take a bit of this bread. Give me a break.

**T**

traffic      terrible hotel      task      terrific tomorrow  
 town      too      time      Tuesday tight  
 tire      timid      towel

The traffic was terrible today. I'm going out of town tomorrow. Tom attacks his work right away. You may be too timid. This task takes so much time. Tina will be too tired tomorrow. They'll go in to town on Tuesday. Your tie looks really terrific. What time is the movie tomorrow night? Use the terry cloth towel tonight.

**D**

during      address Adella      dress      adolescent  
 adorable debate      dance      double condition  
 desk      Doug      delight idea      identity

What an adorable little dog. Please be quiet during the address. I don't dare double date. You dance divinely. He was delighted with my idea. They were in terrible condition yesterday. Adella dresses so well. Did you know David had a double identity? The debate was on during my favorite show. Her condition is delicate. Do you want to dance?

**COMPARISON T/D**

tall/doll	time/dime	to me/dome
ten/den	tie/dye	tell/dell
tile/dial	try/dry	tip/dip

Do you have the time? Do you have a dime? I'll take a tip. I'll take a dip. It's done. It's a ton. Tie the shirt. Dye the shirt. He is tall. He's a doll. Don't touch that tile. Don't touch that dial.

## K

kind care kale keep cabinet  
account cook carry kid according  
come cab could kit cold

Mrs. Cook seems like a kind and caring person. Please come to hear my account. Can you carry these cookies? Come in a cab. How long does kale keep? Can you cook? Call Karen Collins. Could you kindly check my account. There's cold medicine in the cabinet. Some kids are crying. Call me if you're too cold. The corn is cooked.

## G

give go game Gail gorgeous  
Gary gopher golf ago gas  
get gang give guy elegant

Gary got a job as a gopher. Let's give the gang a call. Go get me some gum, please. Let's get a game of golf. That guy has a gun! Don't forget the girl in the garden. Guess again. He was Governor a long time ago. Let's get some gas. Gail really looks elegant. What a gorgeous gown.

George orange June job Genny  
age manage large marriage rejuvenate  
Jack jet just subject rage

George, can you manage without your jacket? Mr. Jones's jet has just arrived. Judy is telling anyone her age. Their marriage was in June. I just forgot the subject. Jenny's doing a good job. A long journey might be rejuvenating. Orange was all the rage last year. We have a large job to finish.

## CH

church watch ouch lurch change lunch  
chicken wrench hunch choice Charles choose  
charity child channel

I don't want chicken for lunch, thank you. Charles chose his team carefully. Mary left her watch at the church. This charity is for children. Ouch! I wrenched my ankle! When can I choose the channel? Let's change lunch places. What choice does a child have!

## COMPARISON SH / CH

wash/watch	share/chair	chic/chick
hush/hutch	shoes/choose	wish/witch
cash/catch	sheep/cheap	shop/chop
dish/ditch	mash/match	shin/chin
sheik/cheek	marsh/march	

I don't like the shoes. I don't like to choose. My wash is on. My watch is on. They're well mashed. They're well matched. Put it in the dish. Put it in the ditch. She's hit her shin. She's hit her chin. We went to the marsh. We went to the march.

### STRESSED SYLLABLES BEGINNING WITH P, K, or T

P	paper	oppose	apply	important
K	capable	accord	account	Caroline
T	entire	atomic	attack	telephone

I'll answer the telephone. It's a capable car. I want to read the paper first. What is important? I'll attack this project next. Caroline opposes this account. She was on the telephone the entire time. According to Cathy, Kelly is very capable. The atomic attack was terrible. The entire paper is important.

### UNSTRESSED SYLLABLES BEGINNING WITH P, K, T

P	potato	parade	apple	pacific	application
K	bacon	consent	awaken	California	
T	communicate				

  

P	tobacco	Toronto	today	tomato	tomorrow
---	---------	---------	-------	--------	----------

These apples come from the Pacific Northwest. Today is better than tomorrow. Buckle your seat belt. They put on a great parade. They moved to Toronto. Communication is the key. California's a big state. The appliances are broken. This tobacco is old. The bacon is cooked.

### MIDDLE T

rated	pretty	letter	matter	Patty	city
bitter	better	later	witty	butter	eighty
latter	motor	writer	hitter	Sutter	batter
litter	sitter				

She'll go to a better school later. Patty is very witty. What cities are rated better? Eighty letters are a lot. What matters is that you're not bitter. Let's attend to the latter. The baby sitter took care of a litter of kittens. Ben Sutter's a good hitter. This is a better motor. The batter is ready.

### MIDDLE D

rudder	reader	powder	adder	redder	buddy
Maddie	Eddie	leader	tidy	ride	puddle

Riddles are fun! The rudder needs to be in the middle. It's such a tidy little cottage. Eddie's the rider today. Maddie's a good reader. Wait for your leader. An adder bit her. Eadie added her vote. Hey, buddy. How are you? This book is redder than that one.

### COMPARISON: MIDDLE T / MIDDLE D

latter/ladder	rater/raider	putting/pudding
wetting/wedding	betting/bedding	matter/madder

  

waiter/wader		
--------------	--	--

She's putting the pudding on the table. What does the rater say about the Raiders? The latter is over there. The ladder is over there. Tell me if he matters. Tell me if he's madder. The betting is heavy. The bedding is heavy. The waiter is relaxing. The wedding is finished.

#### T/ D FOLLOWED BY L AT THE END OF WORDS

little	battle	rattle	addle	middle	riddle
sidle	brittle	tattle	subtle	cuddle	bundle
candle	puddle	cattle	chattel	title	noodle
fiddle	fiddle	saddle			

What happened to the little rattle? They're in the middle of battle? Saddle up the horses and check on the cattle. We've fiddled too long with our title. He's subtle. He's not addled. Did you step in a puddle?

#### T FOLLOWING N

twenty	plenty	Toronto	painting	rented	wanted
printer	fainting				

The winters are cold in Toronto. I wanted twenty rose-bushes in my yard. He's done plenty of paintings. We wanted to buy, but we rented instead.

#### T FOLLOWED BY -EN, -ON, -IN

kitten	mitten	button	Martin	shorten	Horton
soften	listen	often			

Mrs. Martin bought some mittens. That kitten is as cute as a button. Don't shorten the project too much. I want to listen to the radio. How often have you written? She made Horton's heart soften.

#### T, D, K, G, P, or B AT THE END OF A WORD

hit/hid	pick/pig	bop/Bob
pat/pad	Huck/hug	nap/nab
rot/rod	back/bag	sup/sub

He hit me when I hid. Did Pat pad this chair? Don't pick at the pig. Huck doesn't like to hug. I think I'll nab a nap. Did she bring back the bag? Sailors sup on the sub. This will make the rod rot.

#### A NOTE ON GRAMMATICAL ENDINGS

-S or -ES is added to nouns to form their plurals:  
cake, cakes      tax, taxes      girl, girls

-S or -ES is added to verbs to form the simple present tense of the third person singular:  
take, takes      go, goes      rush, rushes

'S is added to nouns to form the possessive:  
Mike, Mike's      Max, Max's      Mary, Mary's

#### GRAMMATICAL ENDING S as /S/

Mike's	takes	cakes	Pat's	hits	rats
Hap's	wraps	grapes	ref's	laughs	graphs

This is Mike's car. He takes it everywhere. Their cakes are delicious. There are rats in the cellar. She wraps her gifts carefully. That has to be the ref's call. Would you like some grapes? Pat's graphs look great. Hap's wife's having a baby. Kit laughs too loudly.

#### GRAMMATICAL ENDING S as /IZ/

Wes's dresses houses James's rises Mr. Walsh's  
roses washes wishes garages watches witches  
hedges edges Max's fixes taxes

That looks like Mr. Walsh's dog. John washes the dog while his mother watches. Did you see the witches of Endor? No one fixes his taxes. He hedges a little on that point. The edges of Max's jacket are frayed. She rises at dawn and dresses. The houses all have three garages. James's wishes were granted.

#### GRAMMATICAL ENDING S as /Z/

Ron's sees boys Tom's runs girls  
Mary's studies towns Gail's wears bags

She runs faster than he does. Gail's bags are here. He wears a clean shirt everyday. Mary's children are very smart. She sees his point. The boys went to the movies. Ron's car runs well. Tom's girls are really growing. There are so many towns on Jim's route. Judy studies her toys.

#### -ED PRONOUNCED /T/

-ED is pronounced -t after the sounds k, s, sh, f, and p.

walk/walked wrap/wrapped help/helped  
wash/washed dress/dressed laugh/aughed  
notice/noticed cough/coughed

They got dressed and walked to the store. Larry washed his car, and then helped Judy wash hers. We noticed that you laughed at the reunion. The stranger watched me for a while, then coughed to get my attention. Linda stopped for some groceries, then rushed home. The Jones brothers worked their way through school.

#### -ED PRONOUNCED /D/

-ED is pronounced -id after D or T

add/added wait/waited load/loaded  
rent/rented want/wanted chat/chatted  
intend/intended rate/rated wade/waded  
wed/wedded

All that was needed was true wedded bliss. We added on a new room and then rented it. Susie waded knee deep in the ocean. How is this restaurant rated? We had our car fitted with ski racks, then loaded them up. But I expected to pay. The play was well attended. The room was a little crowded, so we just chatted for a while. The color has decidedly faded. He said that he'd intended to call. We waited to be seated.

## -ED PRONOUNCED /D/

-ED is pronounced -d after any other sound

play/played	study/studied	grab/grabbed
clean/cleaned	live/lived	call/called
smile/smiled	arrive/arrived	move/moved
rob/robbed	cry/cried	

We grabbed a bite to eat, then studied. The famous actress smiled at her fans as she arrived at the premier. Who just called on the phone? Mary cried when she was robbed. The Smiths moved here last year, but they've never lived far from here. The sculpture grabbed public attention once it was cleaned. The dog dragged himself up and begged for more food. It never seemed that you cared.

## INITIAL CONSONANT CLUSTERS

### SP

spy	spit	spoil	spare	spat	spaghetti
spoon	sparrow	speed	spurn	spirit	sport
spin	space	spore			

He spins a good story. Just spoon in the spaghetti. My spirit was soaring. The red sports car was speeding. Can anyone spare some space? Maria spurned Sam at the party. Try to be a good sport. Did the neighbors have a little spat last night? "Spare the rod and spoil the child." Those plants just spit out their spores.

### SPL

split	splash	splay	splinter	splendid	splint
spleen	splice	splurge	splat	splotch	

It was a splendid day to splash in the pool. Let's splurge on a good movie. My son wore a splint to school. There's a splotch of ink on your dress. Splat went the boy with his feet all splayed out. I'll split the bill with you. Let's splurge on a double ice cream cone. Can you help me take out this splinter?

### SPR

spread	spree	spring	spray	sprint	sprocket
spruce	sprite	sprig	spry	sprain	sprinkle

Spring has sprung today. Spread the toast with fresh butter. Don't sprint across my yard. What a spry old man! Spray off after your sprint. Spruce up for a night on the town. How did you sprain your ankle? The bike chain needs some new sprockets. We're ready for that shopping spree. Try putting a few sprigs of fern in the bouquet.

### ST

store	stare	steep	stop	stem	stick
stir	step	Steve	stew	sty	steal
stove	sting	stud			

Steve stepped up to the plate. The tea is steeping on the stove. That salve stopped the sting fast. What lovely long stemmed roses! Try not to overcook the stew again. Robert has a steel plate in his knee. Stu stole home! Melanie's ring is studded with diamonds. It's not polite to stare. Please go to the store for a stick of butter.

## STR

stride string stress strive strobe stripe  
strum stream stripe struck strike

How strong is that rope? I like the stripes on the string bikini. They struck a deal. When did your union go on strike? I'd like to strum a little tune for you. Someone steals cars and then strips them. Always strive for improvement. He has such a proud stride. What happened to all the strobe lights? No one can take all that stress.

## SL

slid sling slip slum slime slew  
sleeve slot slow slick slack sleep  
Slade slide slate

How can you sleep in such a sloppy room? Be careful not to slip and slide. I like the one with the slits in the sleeves. Slow down for the oil slick. It's fun to play slip and slide. Jack slew the giant. Don't slack off now. Put the money in the slot. This slum is really slimy. Try for a clean slate.

## SK

skinny skid skate skin scarce scan  
scalp Scudder scoot school score scale  
skip skim scared scat sky

Scoot to school on skates. Scott was scared he would skin his knees. The skinny kids scattered everywhere. Mrs. Scudder has smooth skin. Skim milk used to be scarce. Don't skip school. What was the score last night? The scale has tipped in our favor. Watch out for ticket scalpers.

## SQU

squish squash squirt squirm squirrel squander  
squalor

How can you live in such squalor? Billy squirted Bob with a squirt gun. Squirrels never squander acorns. Stop your squirming! When Sam squashed the bug it squished beneath his shoe.

## SN

snake snide snore snare snitch snap  
snit snag snorkle snivel snip snicker  
snail snow snob

Mary was in a snit about snagging her stockings. I always snicker when he snores. Make way for the big snake. It snowed and snowed all last week. Just snip a little off the

edges. Who made such a snide remark? What a snob! He's always in a snit! He snared a snake. The little snitch is always sniveling.

#### SM

smear smoke smile smooch smack smatter  
smell small s'mores smart smooth smitten  
Smith Smedley smash

Smith was smitten by the small woman. Don't smile! I smell smoke. Who could forget Smee in Peter Pan? This is the Smedley and Smith corporation. Our s'mores landed smack in the campfire. Here. Smear some smooth cream on your face. Cindy gave Sam a smattering of smooches. Smile if you think I'm smart. Sam Smith got smashed.

#### BL

bland blare black blue blind bluster  
blank Bly bliss blade blister blast  
bleed blend blame bludgeon blow

Why do you look so black and blue? I think this razor blade is to blame! It's such bliss to live in Beverly Hills. Nellie Bly struck a few blows for women's rights. Blackberries and blueberries make a good blend. Which is the blade that is to blame for the crime? Try not to mind Jerry's blustering and blaring personality. Have you ever felt such blistering heat?

#### BR

bread brie breast brown brand brackish  
braille broke brag break braid bracket  
brink bristle breath bring broil bruise

I like the braided brand of bread best. Mary just broke her brown cup. Bring the oven to broil. Mr. Brown is just on the brink of being broke. How can you brag about being so bruised? The brown cat bristled. I like the braided bracket best.

#### PL

ply plead plague please plot implore  
pliers plug plane plenty plush imply  
plow plink plash plum plunk plaster

I'd like plenty of plums for the pie. Please let's stay in a plush hotel. We thought the plot was a little plodding.

#### PR

proud prod prong pretty prank prove  
priest prattle praise practice pry pray  
prawn preach precious

What a pretty pink dress! The priest likes to pray. Why not prove he played that prank? Do I have to prod you to practice? Praise is really precious. Maybe we can pry it open with the prongs on this fork. Can you prove that you aren't the prankster?

## CL

club      clock      clean      cloak      clatter      close  
closet      clasp      clear      cluster      Clyde      clap  
clip      clue      clamp

It was a clean crime. There were no clues. The cloak was closed with a beautiful clasp. Can we clear the table for Clarence? Why does Clyde clutter so much? The club horses run at quite a fast clip. There was a whole cluster of clocks here before. Could you please close the closet? Clamp down on all that clatter, please.

## CR

crow      crowd      crack      cream      crisp      creed  
create      cry      cram      craze      credit      creature  
crank      crime      crib      critic      crevice

The morning felt cool and crisp. Please don't crowd the crime scene. What little creatures live in crevices? You'll have to cram like crazy for this test. How are creeds created? Crows fly high above the crowd. Put the cranky baby in the crib. Those crackers are fresh and crisp.

## GL

glory      gleam      glen      glad      glue      glorify  
glare      glum      glean      glass      glee      glamour  
glide      glisten      gloat      glaze      gland      glance

I feel glad when roses glisten with dew. Where did you put the glazed glasses? Be glad not glum. Why gloat over a brief glance? Tell us what you've gleaned about glamour. Gloria has a gleam in her eyes today. How long have your glands been swollen? Glen glorified his victories. Don't glare at me and then glide by.

## GR

grist      gripe      grow      grip      grass      great  
grime      grind      greet      grand      greed      grammar  
green      gray      grade      grab      gracious      gradual

That car is a greenish-gray, not blue! Well, back to the same old grind on Monday. My son has grown at least four inches this year. Your grammar is gradually improving. Get a grip on your grades. She's a grand and gracious lady. Let's grab a bite before we greet the guys.

## DR

dress      drove      drink      dream      drop      drum  
drag      dry      drowsy      drab      drool      drift  
drive      drill      drape      drivel      dredge      dribble

Don't drive the drill too deep. My throat is so dry. How about a drink? It's sometimes difficult to drag myself from my dreams. The contented cat drooled and dribbled. This looks more like a drape than a dress. I feel drowsy and I'm drifting off to sleep.

## TR

train	true	trade	trust	troth	trial
try	truck	trample	trowel	tram	triangle
trick	trail	tromp	trash	trip	tribe

I'd like to try to catch that train. My truck could never take this trail. Most kids like to trick or treat. Try not to tromp and trample on the grass. Follow the trail that leads to the truth. These trinkets are trash!

## THR

thrust	thrall	three	thrill	throat	throw
threat	thrifty	thrash	through	throb	thrive
throttle	thread	thrice			

He threw three strikeouts in the game. My heart was throbbing after that thrilling ride at the fair. This throttle seems to be stuck. The sword thrust clean through. What permits bacteria to thrive in the throat? The people are enthralled with the throne.

## FL

flew	fling	flog	flask	floor	flat
flag	flock	fling	flack	flan	flair
flash	flinch	flub	flail		

The flag flew proudly on the Fourth. Fling away your fears and go. Flapping and flailing around won't get you

anywhere. The prisoner didn't flinch at his flogging. Fred found a flask on the floor.

## FR

fruit	fry	frump	frost	fray	Fred
from	fro	fraction	froth	frozen	fragment
frank	fraud	frazzle			

Blend fresh frozen fruit to a tasty froth. Fred likes to fry fish on Saturdays. This package came from Freda. Anyone would be frazzled in this fray. May I be frank about the fraud?

## QU

qualms	quiet	quit	quest	quilt	quiz
quail	queen	quirk	quad	quick	quantum
quake	quality	quarrel	quarry	quart	

Alice was Queen for a Day. It's not quite quiet enough yet. Don't quake in your boots! Go in there and quit! He's so quirky and quiet. Why quibble if it's quality? Let's have a quick lunch on the quad.

## FINAL CONSONANT CLUSTERS

### -RCH

birch	arch	march	perch	parch	church
search	kirch				

The marchers were parched. What kind of bird is perched on that birch tree. So many churches have beautiful arches.

-RP

harp sharp carp Earp burp AARP  
warp

Can you play the harp? Make a sharp left over there. Please excuse yourself when you burp. How old must you be to join AARP?

-RT

heart curt Burt cart Bart art  
shirt skirt smart part wart sort  
port sport start hurt

What sort of sport do you play? Don't start by being curt. Where is the other part of your skirt? My head is starting to hurt.

-RK

hark fork park mark Burke murk  
jerk Turk irk lurk Kirk work  
Dirk perk dark lark bark O'Rourke

Mrs. Burke gives lots of perks to her workers. Why did you try to park in the dark? Have a cup of turkish coffee. Don't jerk or you'll hit someone with your fork.

-RB

barb garb blurb Serb suburb absorb

Garb yourself in beautiful colors. Barb likes living in the suburbs. How can you absorb so much knowledge? Did you write this blurb?

-RD

herd word bird bored marred scarred  
scared lord guard gored bard

What scared the herd? When Judy's face was scarred, she was permanently marred. Why be bored? What word have you heard from your friends. Our cat gored the bird with its claws.

-RGE

sarge surge charge merge barge submerge  
large gorge urge diverge converge

Submerge the barge for now. They all live in a large gorge. The traffic was surging as we merged onto the freeway. We urge you to take charge.

-RF

turf scarf

The turf looks so green from here. What a lovely scarf!

-RVE

carve serve nerve deserve reserve

Carve the turkey, then serve it. What nerve of him to call at midnight! You deserve rave reviews. Please reserve us a table.

-RSE or -RCE

worse nurse horse purse hearse remorse  
force resource

The nurse thinks he's worse than before. We all feel such remorse when we see a hearse. That man forced me down and then took my purse.

-RSH

marsh harsh

It's a little harsh to live in the marsh.

-RL

girl curl whirl churt earl pearl  
burl hurt merle swirl furt

Merle lives in a whirl wind of culture. Tina knows how to curl girls' hair better than anyone. See how the flag furls and swirls.

-RLD

world curled hurled swirled

They hurled stones at the empty cans. The clouds swirled around the world.

-RST

worst burst

William cursed as his project burst. This is the worst movie I've ever seen.

-IMP

mump dump damp camp hump ump  
lamp tramp sump

That tramp lives in such a dump! Everything at the campsite was damp after the rain. There are too many lumps in this gravy.

-RM and -RN

arm harm alarm warm gendarme  
storm farm worm swarm

barn burn earn learn turn  
mourn darn warn

We watched the barn burn after the lightning storm.  
When the alarm sounds, the gendarme swarm. There's  
no harm if you learn to earn a good living.

-NCH

lunch ranch bunch hunch munch  
launch raunchy

Have you had lunch yet? The Parkers bought a ranch.  
That film is a bit raunchy. I've got a hunch they'll wait to  
launch that product. The kids want to munch on some  
snacks.

-NK

Thank think tank dank rink dunk  
sink plank

Don't thank me, thank her. Think of a way to bail or the  
boat will sink! The planks all need to be repaired. It's so  
dank in this cellar! Did you fill the tank? They've opened  
a new skating rink.

-ND and -NT

grind ground round sound sand band  
land Rand second

went sent hunt bent burnt aren't  
splint flint isn't weren't wasn't

The ground is mostly sand. You've sent me bent pictures!  
Aren't they second in line? This land isn't meant for  
hunters. The doctor gave me a splint. The band isn't  
playing tonight. Grind some coffee, would you?

FINAL CLUSTERS WITH L

bulb Kalb bald wild old bold  
milk silk bilk

Mr. Kalb is now bald. How bold of you to go so wild. I  
think this bulb is old. Don't bilk me. This isn't real silk.  
Would you like a glass of milk?

FINAL CLUSTERS WITH S

task tusk husk mask mast blast  
bust cast last rust

What a task to take down this mast. It's such a blast to  
go to a party in a mask. These are the last of the great  
elephant tusks. Doctor, I'm afraid I'll bust my cast.

-PT

wept swept kept leapt

She wept as the wind swept the house away. He dreamed  
as he slept that he leapt from the roof. He kept the card  
forever.

## NTH and LFTH

month	ninth	tenth
eleventh	thirteenth	fourteenth
fifteenth	sixteenth	seventeenth
eighteenth	nineteenth	twelfth

My daughter's in the twelfth grade. We live on the fourteenth floor. This is my ninth cookie. I have lived here for nine months. The sixteenth birthday is one of the best. You are the tenth person to call.

## NOTES

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